

Water Supply Regionalization

SRBC Public Water Supply Assistance Program

Public Water Supply Partnership Workshop

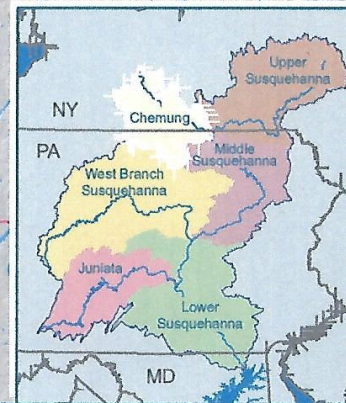
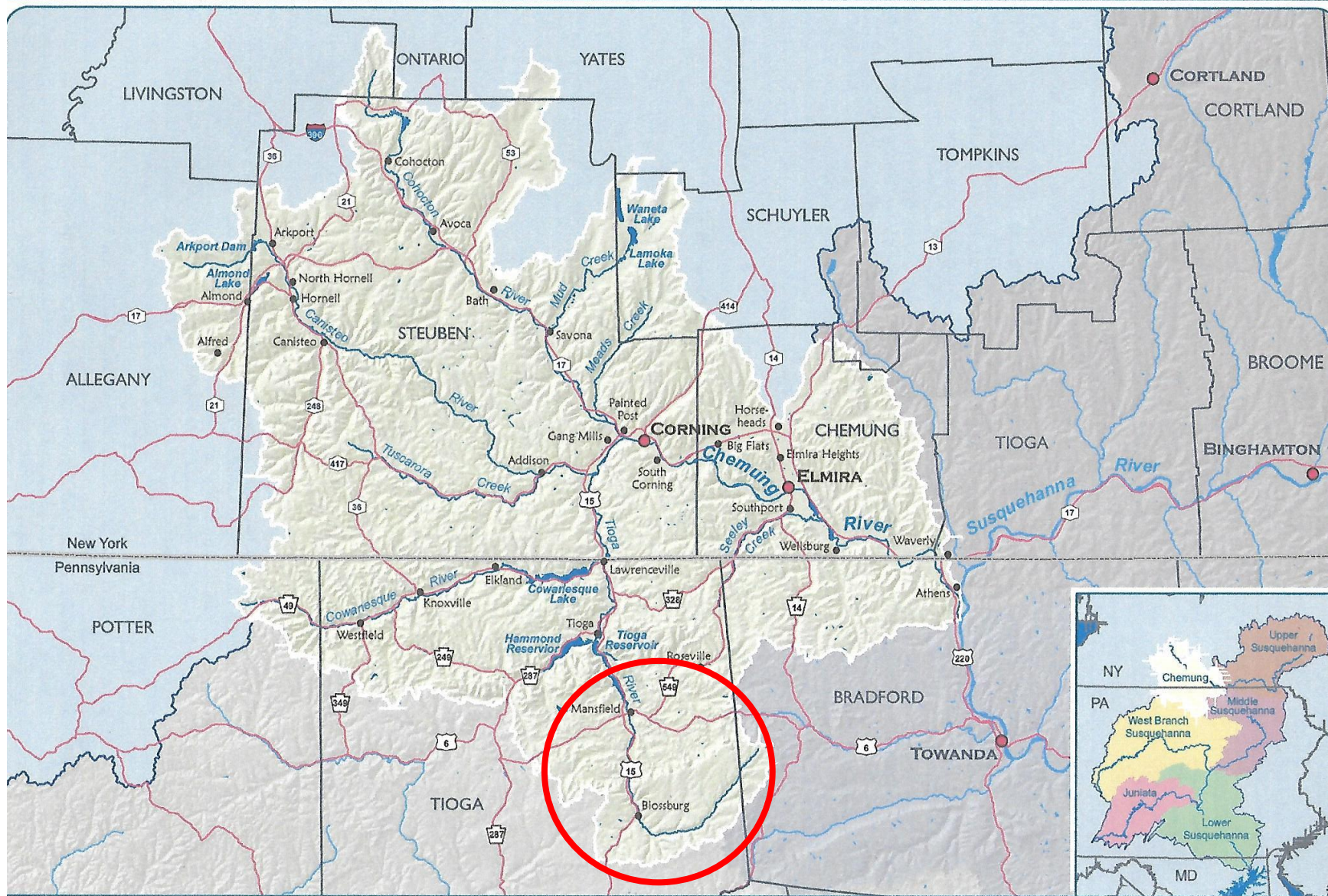
November 9, 2016

jim weaver, Retired Tioga County Planner

Why Regionalization?

- ▶ Economies of Scale & Synergy
- ▶ Sharing resources and infrastructure
- ▶ Streamlined permitting and construction
- ▶ Develops a sense of cooperation and collaboration
- ▶ Engages the community across municipal boundaries

Susquehanna River Basin CHEMUNG SUBBASIN



● Population Center
 ● Town/Village
 Major Road
 State Line
 County Line
 Major Stream
 Water Body

Sources
 Major Water Features: National Hydrography Dataset (NHD), USGS;
 Subbasins: SRBC, 2006, scale 1:24,000;
 Pop. Centers/Towns, Roads: Environmental Systems Research Institute.

County Line: NY State Department of Transportation Map Information Unit, 1997, scale 1:24,000
 PA Department of Transportation, Cartographic Information Division, 1997, scale 1:24,000;
 State Lines: Environmental Systems Research Institute.

0 5 10 Miles

Susquehanna River Basin Commission
 Disclaimer: Intended for Educational Display Purposes Only
 SRBC (1375b) 09-18-2008

Critical Drivers

- ▶ Lack of quality and quantity
- ▶ Dysfunctional Local Governments
- ▶ Opportunity to meet and dialog on water resources (Sourcewater Coalition)
 - ▶ Education & Protection of Sourcewater
 - ▶ Big Picture insights of Water Resources and Sourcewater Protection
 - ▶ Water Suppliers interface with business leaders to gain perspective.
- ▶ Champions Emerge from dialog
- ▶ Willing to share and work together for the common good.

How to:

- ▶ Set the stage for dialog.....identify & communicate the needs and value
- ▶ Encourage/Facilitate Cooperation and Collaboration
- ▶ Attain Critical Mass
- ▶ Ask for commitment & assistance!
 - ▶ Financial (with regionalization comes larger & broader sources)
 - ▶ Skill sets - legal, engineering, local government, business
- ▶ Roll up your sleeves!

Demonstrate and Illustrate the OUTCOMES

- ▶ Publicize the dialog.....get the community engaged
- ▶ Use Comprehensive Planning Process to document and institutionalize the needs, values and outcomes.
- ▶ In the Upper Tioga River Regional Authority (UTRRA) there were three drivers
 - ▶ Lack of Quantity and Quality Water
 - ▶ The Sourcewater Protection Coalition for initial dialog on Water Resources
 - ▶ Support (Financial and Political) from the County Commissioners
- ▶ Enlightened Self Interest both from the Local Government AND Business Community.
- ▶ Series of failures for economic development around Unconventional Gas Development

Nuts & Bolts

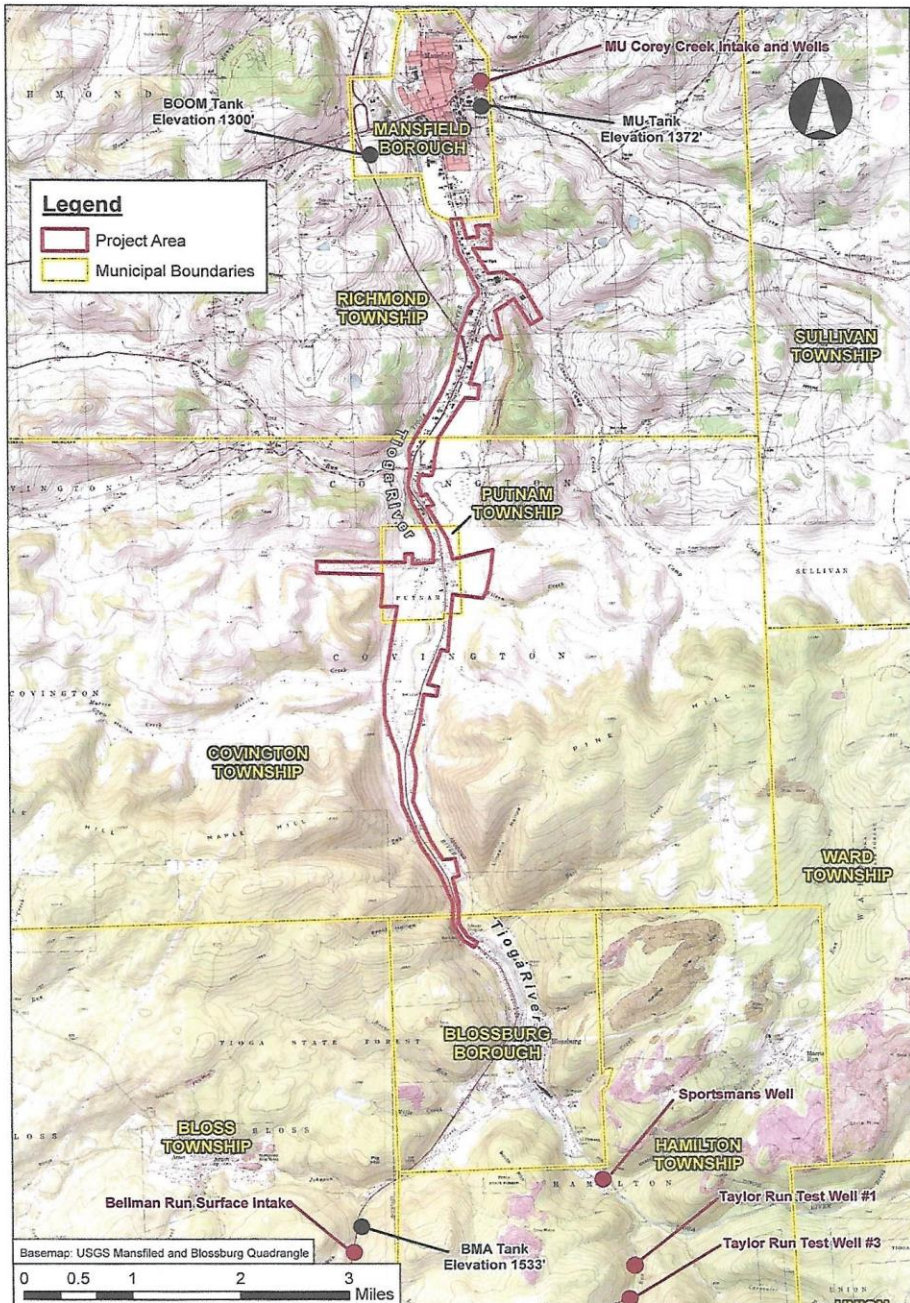
- ▶ The Borough of Blossburg in the headwaters of the Tioga River has plenty of high quality sourcewater.
- ▶ During their comprehensive planning this resource was identified and more notably the Borough Manager was/is in a position to influence the Mayor and Council to develop & share this resource.
- ▶ Thru the Sourcewater Coalition met up with the downstream users with a need.
- ▶ At the same time the business community was concerned that several high profile industry and commercial developments failed to materialize due to lack of water in the valley downstream.
- ▶ These entities got together and discussed an opportunity to work together on a regional municipal authority. (this didn't happen overnight!)


Nuts and Bolts (continued)

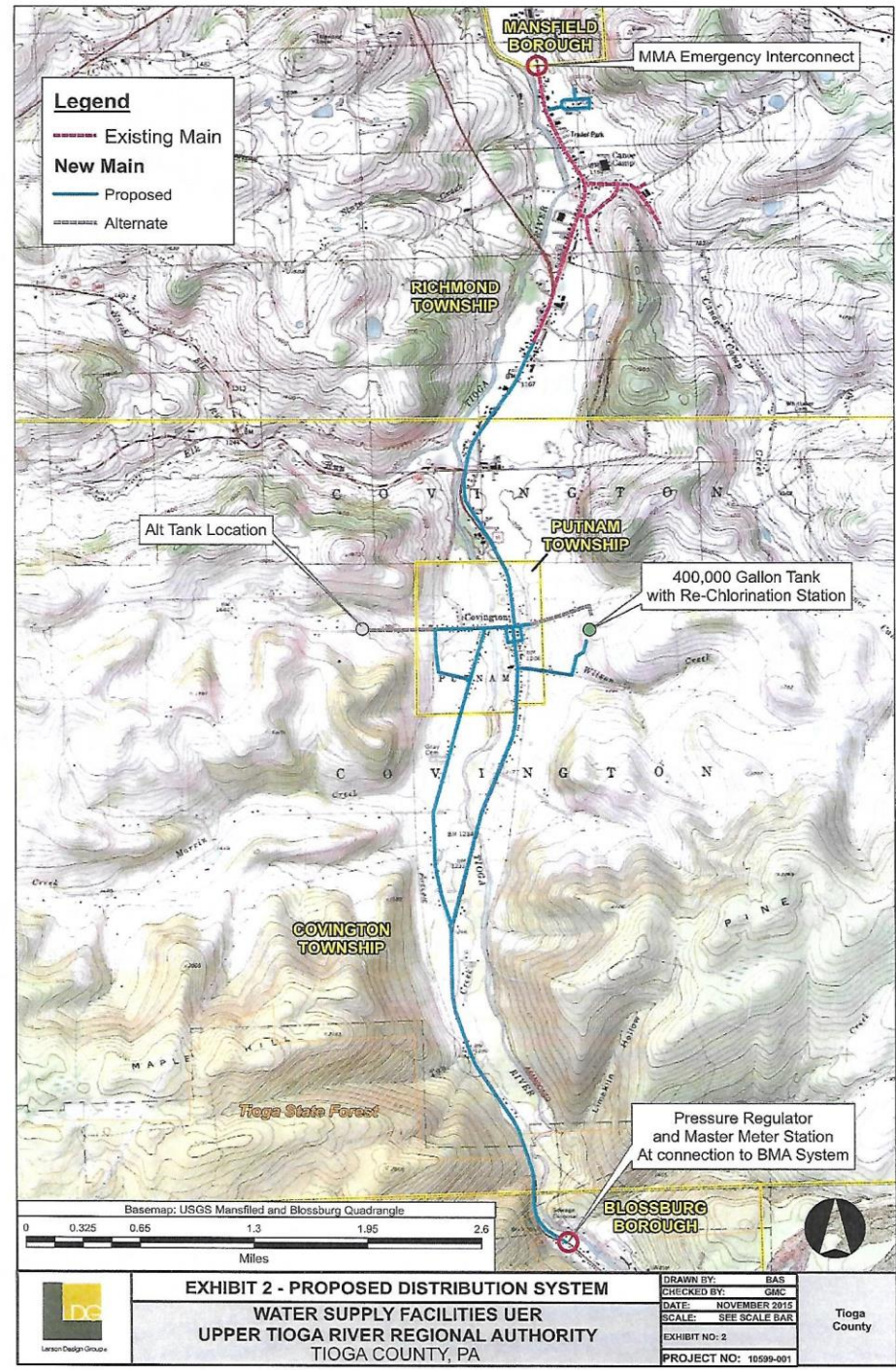
- ▶ There were legal issues, turf issues, financial issues to overcome.
- ▶ BUT - There were several synergies that made this work:
 - ▶ They had common opportunities & issues had established their cooperation: flooding, transportation, wastewater and **multi-municipal planning**.
- ▶ Maybe the most important technical issue was knowing that water flows downhill and the good water was at the TOP! Gravity would do the work and reduce the costs considerably!!
- ▶ The other huge shot in the arm was a grant from the Tioga County Commissioners for One Million Dollars from the Act 13 Funding.
- ▶ This grant provided the funding to do the feasibility and start construction once the Municipal Authority was formed.

Details of the UTRRA Municipal Authority Study Area

- ▶ Blossburg Borough, Covington Township, Putnam Township and Richmond Township
- ▶ Total Project Area: Approx. 1,000 acres
- ▶ Total Earth Disturbance Approx. 7 acres of lineal (trenching) disturbance for water main and service stubs (assuming average trench width of 5 feet along roughly 50,000 feet of main and 10,000 feet of service stubs) Plus approx. 2 acres of additional disturbance for storage tank and pressure/meter station (two separate sites)
- ▶ Water quality in shallow gravel wells in the study are compromised with high nitrates, coliform bacteria, high iron and manganese and taste and odor problems. Some deeper bedrock wells have been drilled but separate groundwater quality issues re present at these greater depths.



	EXHIBIT 1 - STUDY AREA MAP		Tioga County
	WATER SUPPLY FACILITIES UER		
	UPPER TIOGA RIVER REGIONAL AUTHORITY		
	TIOGA COUNTY, PA		
	DRAWN BY: SAS CHECKED BY: GMC DATE: NOVEMBER 2015 SCALE: SEE SCALE BAR EXHIBIT NO: 1 PROJECT NO: 10599-001		



Status of the Project end of Sept. 2016

▶ Data Collection:

- ▶ Geotechnical - awaiting geotechnical report
- ▶ Tank Site - met with tank rep, awaiting tank layout and agreement with municipality
- ▶ Archeological - Phase One complete, additional survey required.
- ▶ Water Sampling (for funding) completed. Needed 50% for primary contamination received 59% (47 of 80 samples had coliforms, arsenic, barium &/or E. Coli exceedance.)
- ▶ Income survey underway.

Status (continued)

- ▶ Preliminary Design
 - ▶ Distribution system design 90% completed.
 - ▶ Finalizing construction details, connections, controls, technical specifications
- ▶ Permitting
 - ▶ PennDOT - awaiting comments
 - ▶ DEP - Positive feedback from NCRO extensive approval requirements needed
 - ▶ SRBC - Subsidiary Water Allocation Permit extensive details including Intermunicipal Agreement, Water Conservation, Leak Detection, Drought Contingency, Blossburg Water Quality and Usage Data.
 - ▶ TCCD - NPDES Permit for Construction
 - ▶ Local Municipalities - local road permits, tank site.
 - ▶ Penn Vest - Anticipating a Feb '17 application for funding.

County Planner Perspective

- ▶ In my twelve years of County and Local Government involvement I have NEVER seen a better demonstration of working together for the common good of the community!
- ▶ ALL of the necessary ingredients are present for success.
- ▶ The Community with the water willing to work with their downstream neighbors, the legal pro-bono work to form the municipal authority and the business community working at the table with the local government entities.
- ▶ The four local governments are well organized, each of the members of the authority have held their end of the agreement up and they are prepared and contribute at each of the meetings.
- ▶ The consulting engineer has the support and input/assistance of the MA for getting their work completed on schedule and within deadlines.

Any Questions?

- ▶ If not, it's time for a shameless plug for a commonwealth scale initiative.....

One Water!

An Initiative of the County Planning Directors of Pennsylvania



1H₂O

Integrated Water Resources Management is:

“The coordinated planning, development, protection, and management of water, land and related resources in a manner that fosters sustainable economic activity, improves or sustains environmental quality, ensures public health and safety, and provides for the sustainability of communities and ecosystems.”

— American Water Resources Association

One Water Task Force

1H₂O

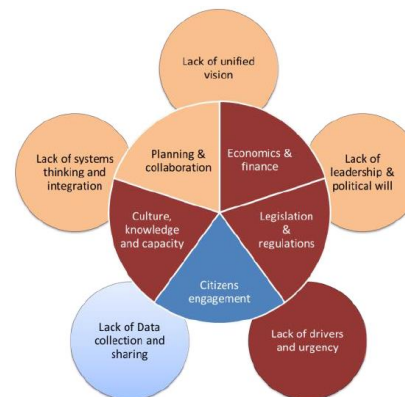
American Water Resources Association asserts that clean water is a basic human right and an economic and ecological necessity and explains that implementing Integrated Water Resources Management involves commitment to the following:

- **Planning for long term sustainability,**
- **Participatory decision making,**
- **Management based on sound science and hydrologic units,**
- **Realistic measurement of outcomes, and**
- **Continuous improvement of institutional capacity at all levels.**

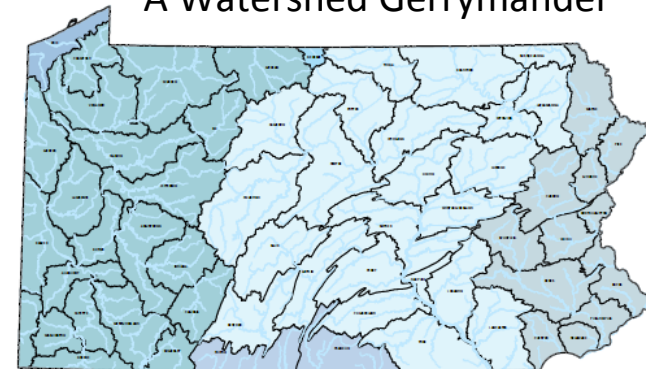
Advocate for the State Water Plan!

One Water Task Force

Barriers to One Water



A Watershed Gerrymander



Thank you!

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